



A Newsletter for Recycling Coordinators

ARTS research facility dedicated

By Elizabeth Rosinski

A research facility committed to finding new applications for old tires was dedicated in a ceremony on November 15 in Clemson.

Funded in part by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and the City of Clemson, the Asphalt Rubber Technology Services (ARTS) facility finds new uses for discarded tires rather than allowing them to fill up landfills, or worse, having them illegally dumped.

Researchers are discovering ways to convert shredded and ground tire material into highways, exit ramps, embankments, retaining walls – even playground matting and running paths. Not only are these environmentally responsible alternatives, but rubberized asphalt typically cracks less, lasts longer and provides better skid resistance in inclement weather.

The facility is unique, said director Serji Amirkhanian, because it not only provides research, development and engineering expertise but – thanks to funding from DHEC – the seed money to help local governments make this technology work for them.

"Finding solutions to the waste tire problem is meaningless unless we can find a way to get the solutions in the community," said Amirkhanian. "That's why this center works so well."

The 6,500-square-foot building includes laboratory and education space.

The five year grant project works with cities and counties across South Carolina to identify recycling markets for waste tires. In addition, education, training and consultation services also are provided.



Clemson's Asphalt Rubber Technology Service research facility will find new uses for old tires.

In just two years, the lab has awarded 23 projects throughout the state. Projects range from wear-resistant roads in Dillon and Richland counties to safer playground equipment in Clemson and Georgetown. This year alone, projects are expected to utilize more than 1,500 tons of tires.

Approximately 4 million worn out tires are discarded annually in South Carolina. Of that, about 200,000 are dumped illegally.

"The reuse and recycling of waste tires is a perfect fit for our agency's mission," said C. Earl Hunter, DHEC's commissioner. "We are able to protect the environment by conserving natural resources, energy and valuable landfill space while, at the same time, eliminating unsightly and illegal tire piles from our state. The prevention and elimination of illegal waste tire piles, in turn, protects human health by eliminating a risk of dangerous fires, as well as a breeding ground for mosquitoes, which, as we all know, can carry deadly disease, including the West Nile Virus," he said. A single tire can produce as many as one million mosquitoes.

According to Amirkhanian, the lab is expected to expand its research to include other recycled materials such as plastic. In

addition, by the time the DHEC grant comes to a close in three years, the research facility is expected to be self-supporting.

For more information, please contact Serji Amirkhanian at (864) 656-3316 or kcdoc@clemson.edu.

Elizabeth Rosinski is editor of the "South Carolina Recycles" newsletter and works within DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling.

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RC Calendar: January–April 2003

January 7	Green Driver Project Presentation, Indian Land High School
January 9	Green Driver Project Presentation, Buford High School
January 10	Green Driver Project Presentation, Lower Richland High School
	"Action for a cleaner tomorrow" ("Action") Environmental Curriculum Training, Hickory Knob, McCormick
January 11 ..	Grinding of the Greens Distribution, Keep the Midlands Beautiful
January 13	Green Driver Project Presentation, Keenan High School
January 14	Grants Workshop, Columbia
	Green Driver Project Presentation, York Comprehensive
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Mauldin High School
January 15	SECOND QUARTER GRANT REPORTS DUE
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Lugoff Elgin High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Chesterfield High School
January 16	Green Driver Project Presentation, Burke High School
January 17	Green Driver Project Presentation, Burke High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, McBee High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Batesburg-Leesville High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, AC Flora High School
January 21	Green Driver Project Presentation, Central High School
January 22	Green Driver Project Presentation, Cheraw High School
January 23	Green Driver Project Presentation, Lockhart High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Chapman High School
January 24	Recycle Guys Awards Program, Columbia
	"Action" Training, Coastal Carolina University
January 27	Green Driver Project Presentation, Clover High School
January 28	Green Driver Project Presentation, Union High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Edisto High School
January 29	Green Driver Project Presentation, Lamar High School
January 30	Green Driver Project Presentation, Marlboro County High School
February 3	Green Driver Project Presentation, Ridge View High School
February 5	Green Driver Project Presentation, Ridge View High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Latta High School
February 6	Green Driver Project Presentation, Northwestern High School
February 10	"Action" Training, Pickens County
February 11	Green Driver Project Presentation, Fairfield Central High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Battery Creek High School
February 12	Green Driver Project Presentation, Battery Creek High School
February 13	Green Driver Project Presentation, Mullins High School
	Green Driver Project Presentation, Airport High School
February 14	FY 04 GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE
February 18	Green Driver Project Presentation, Darlington High School
March 12	Green Driver Project Presentation, Marion High School
March 13	Green Driver Project Presentation, Marion High School
March 14	"Action" Training, Aiken School District
March 18	Green Driver Project Presentation, Lake View High School
March 18-21	Carolina Recycling Association Annual Conference, Greenville
March 20	Green Driver Project Presentation, Creek Bridge Road High School
March 29	Kids Day Columbia, Finlay Park
April 1	Earth Day USA Television Program, ETV, 1 p.m.
April 22	Earth Day
April 26	North Augusta Kids Day, Lyons Field

NOTE: Recycling coordinators are encouraged to attend "Action" trainings and Green Driver presentations that take place in their county. It is a good opportunity to network with teachers and students in your community. To learn more, call Angie Perry at 1-800-326-2630.

EDITOR'S FOCUS

As we look forward to the beginning of a new year, already the plate seems full. There is the Grants Workshop on January 14, the Recycle Guys Awards Program on January 24 and grant applications are due February 14. And equally important, is the Carolina Recycling Association's (CRA) annual conference set for March 18-21 in Greenville. All recycling coordinators should be making plans to attend this year's conference.

Why? Because it is a time when your colleagues from North and South Carolina come together to not only learn the latest recycling information, but also to exchange ideas. This is the true value of such an organization. There are other people just like you experiencing the ups and downs of managing a solid waste/recycling program. Whether it is a market issue, staff training or educating the public, CRA is made up of people who have tried it, tested it and know what works and what doesn't work.

Surprisingly though, just 23 of South Carolina's 46 counties are represented within the CRA. And only five cities can be found on the membership list. The fact is, there are more than 75 programs across the state, many of which do not have representation in this organization.

CRA is your voice – whether it's pushing for the passage of the electronics bill, attending a one-day composting workshop or taking a tour of a recycling facility, there are opportunities to be involved, learn more and exchange ideas with your peers.

And what better time to get involved than at the next CRA conference, held right here in South Carolina. To those of you who are already members, thanks for your involvement in CRA activities. If you haven't joined – I strongly encourage you to do so – CRA members have a lot to offer you and I suspect, there is something you can share with them as well.

For more information about the conference, visit www.cra-recycle.org or call (919) 545-9050.

Elizabeth V. Rosinski
Elizabeth V. Rosinski, Editor



S.C. grand prize awarded, cards tallied for America Recycles Day

By Holly Storey

Donald McKnight of Rock Hill recently was named the \$1,000 state grand prize winner by the America Recycles Day (ARD) in South Carolina Statewide Steering Committee. McKnight received the cash prize, sponsored by the S.C. Soft Drink Association, after a drawing on November 25.

"This prize couldn't have come at a better time," McKnight said. "I received my card at a household hazardous waste collection day in York County, and mailed it. I plan to use the money for Christmas."

The National America Recycles Day Board of Directors recently reported that South Carolina was one of the top states to contribute recycling challenge cards for the sixth year. South Carolina contributed 30,963 cards of the 130,201 collected nationwide. Only the state of New York contributed more cards (30,969), only six more than South Carolina. The charts below show the number of cards collected from counties, colleges and

universities, ARD events and other sources.

Several events were held around the state, including four Recycling Adventures. At these



"adventures," students participated in various recycling-related games, like plastic bottle bowling, recycling obstacle course relays and a theatrical presentation. They also made hats from recycled newspapers and gift boxes made from old greeting cards. The Recycling Adventures took place at Fort Jackson and in Georgetown and York counties.

In addition, Charleston County held a Reuse & Recycle Fair at the S.C. Aquarium. Anyone who brought a reusable item received a voucher for a free child's admission to the S.C. Aquarium or Fort Sumter Tours with a paying adult. Participants also enjoyed live music, face painting and arts and crafts.

Holly Storey is chairperson of the America Recycles Day in South Carolina Steering Committee and serves on the National America Recycles Day Board of Directors.

ARD Challenge Cards Collected by S.C. Counties in 2002

Aiken	223 cards
Anderson	2,203 cards
Barnwell	323 cards
Berkeley	411 cards
Charleston	99 cards
Chester	65 cards
Darlington	220 cards
Dorchester	178 cards
Horry	505 cards
Oconee	670 cards
Pickens	1,701 cards
Sumter	235 cards
York	9,010 cards
TOTAL	15,843 CARDS

ARD Challenge Cards Collected by S.C. Colleges/Universities in 2002

Clemson University,	50 cards
Tri-County Tech	22 cards
USC School of Medicine	148 cards
Winthrop University	286 cards
TOTAL	506 CARDS

ARD Challenge Cards Collected from Other Sources for 2002

From the Internet	120 cards
Elementary/Middle/High Schools	10,138 cards
ARD Events	4,356 cards
TOTAL	14,614 CARDS

Grants deadline moved to February 14, 2003

Due to budget constraints, this year's deadline for FY 2004 grants has been moved up to February 14, 2003. This deadline applies to all grants including solid waste, used oil, waste tire and automobile dismantler.

Applications are available through e-mail, on disk or hard copy. Please fax your request to (803) 896-4001. Please specify in what format you wish to receive the applications, i.e. hard copy, electronically (Word, WordPerfect) or e-mail as well as all contact information. Applications will be mailed upon receipt of request.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the upcoming grant cycle, please join the Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling on Tuesday, January 14 for a Grants Workshop. All local government representatives are strongly encouraged to attend. The workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn - Two Notch Road in Columbia. The session ends at 1 p.m.

To register, fax your name, local government and phone number to Jana White at (803) 896-4001. In addition, if you have any questions, please call 1-800-768-7348.

DHEC changes e-mail addresses

The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control has shortened employee e-mail addresses.

The first eight letters of employees' e-mail addresses will remain the same, but new addresses will have @dhec.sc.gov as the new routing extension. Please note this change in your address book. E-mails sent to old addresses will not be delivered after February 1.

A contact sheet listing all staff within the Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling has been included in the 2003 Recycling Directory. All recycling coordinators will receive a copy in January.

COUNTY UPDATES

Cherokee County has a recycling contest with 17 area schools. Schools compete to have the best recycling program in an effort to keep an award that is passed from school to school.

Chesterfield County has started accepting paint and solvents for reuse by county maintenance staff.

Darlington County uses Value Clothing in Advance, N.C. for marketing their textiles.

Dorchester County uses Dausey By-Products, Inc. in St. George as the vendor

for cooking oil. It also evaluates attendants and rewards them with a night on the town. In addition, Dorchester County has established a Recycling Troopers program in its elementary schools. The troopers monitor classroom recycling and issue tickets to teachers who are caught NOT recycling.

Greenwood County collects toner cartridges from all county facilities. Their vendor is US Laser in Columbia who pays the shipping and furnishes labels. The county also has a paint exchange program.

Greenville County has added the collection of ALL plastic bottles (#1-#7) to their recycling program. It also has partnered with the Greenville County School District to promote mixed paper and cardboard recycling in all Greenville County Public Schools. Visey Paper will pick up the mixed paper and cardboard at no cost to the school district. It is funded by a grant from the county.

Oconee County has started a new educational program for fifth graders. They tour the MRF and learn the importance of recycling.

York County has residents bring recyclables in clear plastic bags provided by the county to recycling centers. They are sorted by attendants to reduce contamination.

Programs name new recycling coordinators

City and county recycling programs recently hired the following individuals to serve as recycling coordinators:

- **Alysen Wood**, City of Greenville;
- **Lynn Koven**, City of Rock Hill; and
- **Amy McCutcheon**, Georgetown County.

In addition, **Wendy McNatt** has been hired as the new recycling educator for Greenville County.

EXPLORING NEW HORIZONS

Carolina Recycling Association's **13th Annual Conference & Trade Show**

March 18 -21, 2003
Hyatt Regency, Greenville, SC

For more information, call
(919) 545-9050
or visit www.cra-recycle.org.

*You are cordially invited
to attend the eighth annual*

RECYCLE GUYS AWARDS PROGRAM

January 24, 2003
Seawell's Restaurant, Columbia, SC
(across from the State Fair Grounds)
11:30 a.m.

RSVP:
Telephone: 1-800-768-7348
or E-mail: varnat@dhec.sc.gov
or Fax: (803) 896-4001
Please reply by **January 3, 2003**.



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